



Abortion access has won when it's been on the ballot. That's not an option for half the states



Abortion-rights protesters cheer at a rally following the United States Supreme Court's decision to overturn Roe v. Wade, federally protected right to abortion, outside the state capitol in Lansing, Mich., June 24, 2022.

Associated Press



A guide for the perfect picture Where to find the most Instagrammable places in Oranjestad



LIVE ENTERTAINMENT 7 DAYS A WEEK **PROFESSIONAL COMPLIMENTARY PICTURES ON TUESDAY AND FRIDAY**

SUNDAY:	MONDAY:	TUESDAY:	WEDNESDAY:	THURSDAY:	FRIDAY:	SATURDAY:
MARRYBELL MADURO SINGER 6:30 - 8:30pm	ANGELA FLORES VIOLINIST 6:30 - 8:30pm	JEAN PAUL SAXOPHONIST 6:30 - 8:30pm	EDDIE KROON SINGER 4:00 - 6:00pm MAILLEYN ALVARADO VIOLINIST 6:30 - 8:30pm KARAOKE 9:00 - 11:00pm	MARRYBELL MADURO SINGER 6:30 - 8:30pm	RICKY THOMAS GUITARIST 7:00 - 9:00pm	EDDIE KROON SINGER 4:00 - 6:00pm ANGELA FLORES VIOLINIST 6:30 - 8:30pm

WATER'S EDGE RESTAURANT & BAR **costa linda beach resort**

Happy Hour 12 - 1 / 4 - 6 / 9 - 10 **PREMIUM BRANDS**

Tel +297 583 8000 Ext. 8106 | Reservations at wateredge-aruba.com | Elegant dining, spectacular ocean views enjoyed al fresco or in air conditioned comfort | Located at Costa Linda Beach Resort

Pinchos Grill & Bar
Now in its 20th plus year, owned and run by a local family.

Open 7 days a week, as of 5:00PM
Full Service Bar
Live Music on weekends
Reservations: (297) 583 2666 or reservations@pinchosgrillaruba.com

Illinois may soon return land the US stole from a Prairie Band Potawatomi chief 175 years ago

By **JOHN O'CONNOR**
AP Political Writer

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. (AP) — Some 175 years after the U.S. government stole land from the chief of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation while he was away visiting relatives, Illinois may soon return it to the tribe. Nothing ever changed the 1829 treaty that Chief Shab-eh-nay signed with the U.S. government to preserve for him a reservation in northern Illinois: not subsequent accords nor the 1830 Indian Removal Act, which forced all indigenous people to move west of the Mississippi. But around 1848, the U.S. sold the land to white settlers while Shab-eh-nay and other members of his

tribe were visiting family in Kansas. To right the wrong, Illinois would transfer a 1,500-acre (607-hectare) state park west of Chicago, which was named after Shab-eh-nay, to the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation. The state would continue providing maintenance while the tribe says it wants to keep the park as it is. "The average citizen shouldn't know that title has been transferred to the nation so they can still enjoy everything that's going on within the park and take advantage of all of that area out there," said Joseph "Zeke" Rupnick, chairman of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation based in Mayetta, Kansas.

It's not entirely the same soil that the U.S. took from Chief Shab-eh-nay. The boundaries of his original 1,280-acre (518-hectare) reservation now encompass hundreds of acres of privately owned land, a golf course and county forest preserve. The legislation awaiting Illinois House approval would transfer the Shabbona Lake State Recreation Area. No one disputes Shab-eh-nay's reservation was illegally sold and still belongs to the Potawatomi. An exactly researched July 2000 memo from the Interior Department found the claim valid and shot down rebuttals from Illinois officials at the time, positing, "It appears that Illinois offi-



Prairie Band Potawatomi Chief Shab-eh-nay, shown in this image provided by the Northern Illinois University Digital Library, is at the center of legislation in Illinois to compensate the tribe for land taken from the tribe.

Associated Press

cials are struggling with the concept of having an Indian reservation in the state." But nothing has changed a quarter-century later. Democratic state Rep. Will Guzzardi, who sponsored the legislation to transfer the state park, said it is a significant concession on the part of the Potawatomi. With various private and public concerns now owning more than half of the original reservation land, reclaiming it for the Potawatomi would set up a serpentine legal wrangle. "Instead, the tribe has offered a compromise, which is to say, 'We'll take the entirety of the park and give up our claim to the private land and the county land and the rest of that land,'" Guzzardi said. "That's a better deal for all parties involved." The proposed transfer of the park, which is 68 miles (109 kilometers) west of Chicago, won Senate approval in the final days of the spring legislative session. But a snag in the House prevented its passage. Proponents will seek endorsement of the measure when the Legislature returns in November for its fall meeting. The Second Treaty of Prairie du Chien in 1829 guaranteed the original land to Chief Shab-eh-nay. The tribe signed 20 other treaties during the next 38 years, according to Rupnick. "Yet Congress still kept those two sections of land for Chief Shab-eh-nay and his descendants forever," said Rupnick, a fourth great-

grandson of Shab-eh-nay. "At any one of those times the Congress could have removed the status of that land. They never did." Key to the proposal is a management agreement between the tribe and the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. Rupnick said the tribe needs the state's help to maintain the park. Many residents who live next to the park oppose the plan, fearing construction of a casino or even a hotel would draw more tourists and lead to a larger, more congested community. "Myself and my family have put a lot of money and given up a lot to be where we are in a small community and enjoy the park the way that it is," resident Becky Oest told a House committee in May, asking that the proposal be amended to prohibit construction that would "affect our community. It's a small town. We don't want it to grow bigger." Rupnick said a casino doesn't make sense because state-sanctioned gambling boats already dot the state. He did not rule out a hotel, noting the park draws 500,000 visitors a year and the closest lodging is in DeKalb, 18 miles (29 kilometers) northeast of Shabbona. The park has 150 campsites. In 2006, the tribe purchased 128 acres (52 hectares) in a corner of the original reservation and leases the land for farming. The U.S. government in April certified that as the first reservation in Illinois. □

Live Entertainment at 8PM

MON Latin Dance Show

TUE Steelpan Music

WED Cultural Dance Show

THU Acrobatic Show

SUN Violin Show

Nightly Watershow 7:30pm - 8:30pm - 9:30pm

Stores are open from Mon to Sat 10am to 10pm and Sun 5pm to 10pm
www.paseoherencia.com

**\$15 OFF YOUR
NEXT PURCHASE.**
PROMO CODE: ARUBATODAY

Fresh Food, Beverages & More! From the Store to Your Door

Shop 24/7 online and we deliver to your home, timeshare, hotel or Airbnb.
Committed to quality and freshness. Convenience guaranteed.



GroceriesToGoAruba.com



Abortion access has won when it's been on the ballot. That's not an option for half the states

By **KIMBERLEE KRUESI,**
CHRISTINE FERNANDO and
LEAH WILLINGHAM

Associated Press

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP) —

Tucked inside the West Virginia Statehouse is a copy of a petition to lawmakers with a simple request: Let the voters decide whether to reinstate legal access to abortion.

The request has been ignored by the Republican lawmakers who have supermajority control in the Legislature and banned abortions in the state in 2022, shortly after the U.S. Supreme Court overturned a constitutional right to the procedure.

The petition, with more than 2,500 signatures, is essentially meaningless given the current makeup of the Legislature. But it illustrates the frustratingly limited options millions of Americans face in trying to re-establish abortion rights as the country marks the two-year anniversary since the Supreme Court's ruling.

West Virginia is among the 25 states that do not allow citizen initiatives or constitutional amendments on a statewide ballot, an avenue of direct democracy that has allowed voters to circumvent their legislatures and preserve abortion and other reproductive rights in a number of states over the past two years.

Republicans there have repeatedly dismissed the idea of placing an abortion-rights measure before voters, which in West Virginia is a step only lawmakers can take.

"It makes you wonder what they're so afraid of," said Democratic Del. Kayla Young, one of only 16 women in the West Virginia Legislature. "If they feel so



People gather in the parking lot of the Hamilton County Board of Elections as people arrive for early in-person voting in Cincinnati, Nov. 2, 2023.

Associated Press

strongly that this is what people believe, prove it." The court's ruling to overturn *Roe v. Wade* was praised by abortion opponents as a decision that returned the question to the states. Former President Donald Trump, who named three of the justices who overturned *Roe*, has repeatedly claimed "the people" are now the ones deciding abortion access. "The people are deciding," he said during a recent interview with Fox News host Sean Hannity. "And in many ways, it's a beautiful thing to watch."

But that's not true everywhere. In states allowing the citizen initiative and where abortion access has been on the ballot, voters have resoundingly affirmed the right to abortion.

Voters in seven states, including conservative ones such as Kentucky, Montana and Ohio, have either protected abortion rights or defeated attempts to curtail them in statewide votes over the past two years. Reproductive rights supporters are trying to put citizen initiatives on the ballot in several states this year.

But voters don't have a di-

rect say in about half the states.

This is particularly true for those living in the South. Republican-controlled legislatures, many of which have been heavily gerrymandered to give the GOP disproportionate power, have enacted some of the strictest abortion bans since the Supreme Court ruling while shunning efforts to expand direct democracy.

States began adopting the initiative process during the Progressive Era more than a century ago, giving citizens a way to make or repeal laws through a direct vote of the people. Between 1898 and 1918, nearly 20 states approved the citizen initiative. Since then, just five states have done so.

"It was a different time," said John Matsusaka, professor of business and law at the University of Southern California. "There was a political movement across the whole country when people were trying to do what they saw as good government."

Some lawmakers argue citizen initiatives bypass important checks and balances offered through the legislative process. In Ten-

nessee, where Republicans have gerrymandered legislative districts to give them a supermajority in the statehouse, House Majority Leader William Lamberth likened ballot measures to polls rather than what he described as the legislature's strict review of complicated policy-making.

"We evaluate bills every single year," he said.

As in West Virginia, abortion-rights supporters or Democratic lawmakers have asked Republican-controlled legislatures in a handful of states to take the abortion question straight to voters, a tactic that hasn't succeeded anywhere the GOP has a majority.

"This means you're going to say, 'Hey Legislature, would you like to give up some of your power? Would you like to give up your monopoly on policymaking?'" said Thad Kousser, professor of political science at the University of California, San Diego. "You need a political momentum and then have the process cooperate."

In South Carolina, which bans nearly all abortions, a Democratic-backed resolution to put a state constitutional amendment on the ballot never got a hearing this year. Attempts to attach the proposal to other pieces of legislation were quickly shut down by Republicans.

"If you believe you are doing the right thing for all the people of South Carolina — men and women and babies — you should have no problem putting this to the people," said Democratic Sen. Margie Bright Matthews, alleging that Republicans fear they would lose if the issue went directly to voters.

In Georgia, Democratic Rep. Shea Roberts said she frequently fields questions from her constituents asking how they can get involved in a citizen-led ballot measure. The interest exploded after voters in Kansas rejected an anti-abortion measure from the Legislature in 2022 and was rekindled last fall after Ohio voters overwhelmingly passed an amendment codifying abortion rights in the state's constitution.

Yet when she has brought legislation to create a citizen initiative process in Georgia, the efforts have been ignored inside the Republican-controlled Legislature.

"Voters are constantly asking us why we can't do this, and we're constantly explaining that it's not possible under our current constitution," Roberts said. "If almost half of states have this process, why shouldn't Georgians?"

The contrast is on stark display in two presidential swing states. Michigan voters used a citizen initiative to enshrine abortion rights in their state constitution in 2022. Voters in neighboring Wisconsin don't have that ability.

Instead, Wisconsin Democrats, with a new liberal majority on the state Supreme Court, are working to overturn Republican-drawn legislative maps that are among the most gerrymandered in the country in the hope of eventually flipping the Legislature.

Analiese Eicher, director of communications at Planned Parenthood Advocates of Wisconsin, said a citizen-led ballot measure process would have been especially valuable for her cause. □

Millions swelter as temperatures soar across the U.S., while deadly floodwaters inundate the Midwest

By The Associated Press

Millions of Americans sweated through yet another scorching day as temperatures soared Sunday across the U.S., while deadly floodwaters inundated parts of the Midwest, including a town in Iowa whose own water-level gauge was submerged.

From the mid-Atlantic to Maine, across the Great Lakes region, and throughout the West to California, public officials cautioned residents about the dangers of excessive heat and humidity. In Oklahoma, the heat index — what the temperature feels like to the human body — was expected to reach 107 degrees (41 degrees Celsius) on Sunday.

In the Midwest where South Dakota, Iowa and Minnesota meet, floodwaters rose through the weekend. In northwest Iowa, 13 rivers flooded the area, said Eric Tigges of Clay County emergency management. Entire neighborhoods — and at least one entire town — were evacuated, and the town of Spencer imposed a curfew Sunday for the second night in a row after flooding that surpassed the record set in



A South Dakota Highway Patrol Officer keeps watch over a flooded bridge that was underwater after days of heavy rain led to flooding in the area, near Lake Alvin, S.D., Saturday, June 22, 2024.

Associated Press

1953.

"When the flood gauge is underwater, it's really high," Tigges said in a news conference organized by Spencer officials.

Gov. Kim Reynolds declared a disaster for 21 counties in northern Iowa, including Sioux County. In drone video posted by the local sheriff, no streets were visible, just roofs and treetops poking above the water.

In South Dakota, Gov. Kristi Noem declared an emergency after severe flooding in the southeastern part of the state bordering Nebraska. Several highways were closed. Sioux Falls, the state's largest city, had

more than 7 inches (17.7 centimeters) of rain in three days. At least one person died in the floods, Noem said Sunday, without providing details.

Several rivers, including the Big Sioux, James and Vermillion, were expected to peak sometime Monday through Wednesday night, the governor said at a news conference.

"I want to remind everybody to remember the power of water and the flow of water, and to stay away from flooded areas," Noem said. She added that "we've got a few days in front of us here that'll be a little rough, but we'll get through it together and

do the very best to protect infrastructure, homes and families as we possibly can."

Emergency management officials in the small South Dakota community of Dakota Dunes on Sunday issued a voluntary evacuation order for the area's roughly 4,000 residents. Dakota Dunes is near the Nebraska and Iowa borders and is sandwiched between the Missouri and Big Sioux rivers, both of which are expected to crest in the coming days. Emergency management in Dakota Dunes warned residents that a mandatory evacuation could come quickly if flood barriers are breached.

But elsewhere, the heat was the biggest worry.

"It's more important for people who are going to be outside to stay hydrated, because heat, humidity and low winds, even if you're in good shape and not really acclimated to it, it could be a danger," said Bruce Thoren, a National Weather Service meteorologist in Oklahoma. "It happens quickly."

The cities of Washington, D.C., Baltimore and Philadelphia all saw record heat

on Saturday, with more high temperatures expected again Sunday.

Lamont Cousins, who owns the Ampersea restaurant on Baltimore's waterfront, said business had been slow this weekend. The 40 outdoor dining seats at the restaurant, usually packed this time of year, were empty until around dinner-time Saturday.

"I think it's affected us because people are staying home scared," he said.

On Saturday, when he went to put umbrellas on the tables, it was already over 90 degrees. But Cousins said he's not too worried about the lost business — and he expected Sunday would be better.

"Yesterday, it was nobody walking around. It's hotter today, but there's a breeze going. Yesterday, it just felt like I was being punished," Cousins said.

Last year the U.S. experienced the most heat waves since 1936, experts said. An AP analysis of data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention found that excessive heat contributed to more than 2,300 deaths, the highest in 45 years of records. □

FBI seeks suspects in 2 New Mexico wildfires that killed 2 people, damaged hundreds of buildings

RUIDOSO, N.M. (AP) — Full-time residents of Ruidoso will be allowed to return to their village Monday morning as federal authorities seek to prosecute whoever started a pair of New Mexico wildfires that killed two people and destroyed or damaged more than 1,400 structures.

The FBI said it is offering a reward of up to \$10,000 for information leading to the arrests and convictions of those responsible for the South Fork Fire and Salt Fire in southern New Mexico, which forced thousands to flee.

The federal agency also said it was seeking public assistance in identifying the

cause of the fires discovered June 17 near the village of Ruidoso.

But the notice also pointedly suggested human hands were to blame, saying the reward was for information leading to the arrest and conviction of "the person or persons responsible for starting the fires."

Lincoln County Manager Randall Camp said at a news conference Saturday that "we are approaching a thousand homes lost" in the fires.

President Joe Biden issued a disaster declaration for parts of southern New Mexico on Thursday. The move freed up funding and more resources to help with re-



The remains of a business destroyed by the South Fork Fire are pictured in the mountain village of Ruidoso, N.M., Saturday, June 22, 2024.

Associated Press

covery efforts including temporary housing, low-cost loans to cover uninsured property and other emergency work in Lincoln County and on lands belonging to the Mescalero Apache Tribe.

The National Interagency Fire Center said the South Fork Fire, which reached 26 square miles (67 square kilometers), was 31% contained Sunday. It said the Salt Fire that has spread over 12 square miles (31

square kilometers) was now 7% contained.

Both fires had been at zero containment Friday. Full containment isn't expected until July 15, according to fire officials.

More than 1,100 firefighters continued to fight the flames in steep and rocky terrain Sunday.

The South Fork and Salt fires are still burning on both sides of Ruidoso and a threat of flash floods still looms over the village.

Authorities said downed power lines, damaged water, sewer and gas lines plus flooding in burn scars continued to pose risks to firefighters and the public. □

Netanyahu again claims the U.S. is withholding arms shipments, days after Washington denies it

By TIA GOLDENBERG

Associated Press

TEL AVIV, Israel (AP) — Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu told his Cabinet on Sunday that there had been a “dramatic drop” in U.S. weapons deliveries for Israel’s war effort in Gaza, doubling down on a claim that the Biden administration has denied and underscoring the growing strains between the two allies. Netanyahu told his Cabinet that the drop had occurred four months ago, without specifying which weapons, saying only that “certain items arrived sporadically but the munitions at large remained behind.” The spat highlights how high tensions have surged between Israel and Washington over the war in Gaza, particularly surrounding the Israeli military’s conduct in the beleaguered territory and the harm to civilian life there. President Joe Biden has delayed delivering certain heavy bombs since May over those concerns, but his admin-



People attend a protest against Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's government and demanding elections, in Tel Aviv, Israel, Saturday, June 22, 2024.

Associated Press

istration fought back last week against Netanyahu’s charges that other shipments had also been affected. Netanyahu told the Cabinet that he was driven to release a video in English last week after weeks of unsuccessful pleas with American officials to speed up deliveries. He said a resolution appeared close. “In light of what I have heard over the past day, I hope and believe that this matter will be solved soon,” he said, without elaborating.

Netanyahu’s video last week sparked an uproar among critics in Israel and was met with denial and confusion from White House officials. White House national security spokesman John Kirby said the U.S. was “perplexed” by Netanyahu’s claims. White House press secretary Karine Jean-Pierre said, “We genuinely do not know what he’s talking about.” A White House official on Sunday said the administration has repeatedly stated its position on the matter, and declined to respond

to Netanyahu’s comments. The official, who requested anonymity to discuss a diplomatic issue, said U.S. officials were looking forward to “constructive consultations” this week in Washington with Israel’s visiting defense minister, Yoav Gallant. Gallant, a rival of Netanyahu’s inside the ruling Likud party, was traveling to Washington on Sunday. His office said he would discuss “maintaining Israel’s qualitative edge in the region” but made no mention of the weapons issue. The war in Gaza, which was sparked by Hamas’ Oct. 7 attack on southern Israel, has tested the U.S.-Israel relationship like never before. While the U.S. has staunchly supported Israel’s aims of freeing hostages taken into Gaza and defeating Hamas, it has grown increasingly concerned over the rising Palestinian death toll and the humanitarian crisis created by the war. Biden has felt pressure from progressive Demo-

crats to take a tougher line against Israel, and he has sharpened his warnings to Netanyahu over military tactics in the Gaza Strip. But after threatening to impose a more sweeping ban on arms transfers over an assault on Rafah, the administration has avoided any suggestion that Israel’s expanding push into the southern Gaza city has crossed a red line. During an election year, Biden is also facing critics on the right who say he has moderated his support for an essential Mideast ally. For Netanyahu, the growing daylight with the U.S. also poses political risks and opportunities. His critics see the public spats as the result of a leader prepared to wreck important alliances and tarnish Israel’s image in the world for political gain. But the rift grants the long-serving leader a chance to show his base that he isn’t beholden to the U.S. and that he is putting Israel’s interests first. □

Yemen’s Houthi rebels target ship in the Gulf of Aden as the Eisenhower aircraft carrier heads home

By JON GAMBRELL

Associated Press

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — An attack by Yemen’s Houthi rebels targeted a commercial ship traveling through the Gulf of Aden but apparently caused no damage, authorities said Saturday, in the latest strike on the shipping lane by the group. The Houthi attack comes after the sinking this week of the ship Tutor, which marked what appears to be a new escalation by the Iranian-backed Houthis in their campaign of strikes on ships in the vital maritime corridor over the Israel-Hamas war in the Gaza Strip. Meanwhile, the U.S. military ordered the USS Dwight D. Eisenhower, the aircraft carrier leading America’s response to the Houthi attacks, to return home after

a twice-extended tour. The captain of the ship targeted late Friday saw “explosions in the vicinity of the vessel,” the British military’s United Kingdom Maritime Trade Operations center said. A later briefing by the U.S.-overseen Joint Maritime Information Center said the vessel initially reported two explosions off its port side and a third one later. “The vessel was not hit and sustained no damage,” the center said. “The vessel and crew are reported to be safe and are proceeding to their next port of call.” The Houthis, who have held Yemen’s capital, Sanaa, since 2014, claimed the attack Saturday night. Brig. Gen. Yahya Saree, a Houthi military spokesman, identified the vessel targeted as the bulk carrier Transworld Navigator.



The USS aircraft carrier Dwight D. Eisenhower, also known as ‘IKE’, sails in the Red Sea on Wednesday, June 12, 2024.

Associated Press

The U.S. military separately destroyed three drone boats in the Red Sea over the last day, Central Command said. The Houthis have launched more than 60 attacks targeting specific vessels and fired off other missiles and drones in their campaign that has killed a total of four sailors. They have seized one vessel and sunk two since November. A U.S.-led airstrike campaign has

targeted the Houthis since January, with a series of strikes May 30 killing at least 16 people and wounding 42 others, the rebels say. In March, the Belize-flagged Rubymar carrying fertilizer became the first to sink in the Red Sea after taking on water for days following a rebel attack. The Houthis have maintained that their attacks target ships linked to Israel, the United States or Britain.

However, many of the ships attacked have little or no connection to the Israel-Hamas war. The Eisenhower, based in Norfolk, Virginia, is returning home after an over eight-month deployment in combat that the Navy says is its most intense since World War II. The San Diego-based USS Theodore Roosevelt will take the Eisenhower’s place after a scheduled exercise in the Indo-Pacific, said Pentagon press secretary Maj. Gen. Pat Ryder. The Roosevelt anchored Saturday in Busan, South Korea, amid Seoul’s ongoing tensions with North Korea. The Eisenhower had already reached the Mediterranean Sea, said a U.S. official, who spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss ship movements. □

Killing of young Cambodian couple by businessman with honorary title revives concerns about impunity

By **SOPHENG CHEANG**

Associated Press

PHNOM PENH, Cambodia (AP) — In a case that has sparked widespread public outrage, a court in Cambodia formally charged a real estate entrepreneur who held a royally bestowed title with the premeditated murder of a young couple in the capital Phnom Penh.

Social media has been awash for the past week with comments asserting that the suspect is likely to get off because he is rich, a common view about the Southeast Asian country's justice system. The court ruled Saturday.

The suspect, 50-year-old Srey Sina, allegedly shot to death 27-year-old Long Ly-song and his 25-year-old fiancée Khim Kanhchana on June 17 while intervening in a dispute between neighbors. Two other victims in their early 20s sustained minor injuries.

Srey Sina was also charged with attempted murder and illegal possession of a firearm by the Phnom Penh



Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Manet poses for photo, in Hanoi, Vietnam on Dec.11, 2023.

Associated Press

Municipal Court, according to a statement issued Sunday by the Justice Ministry. It said the charges will be prosecuted in two separate proceedings, each allowing a maximum sentence of 15 years imprisonment. Cambodia does not have the death penalty. Prosecutors said additional charges could be lodged after further investigation.

The court ordered the suspect detained at Prey Sar prison. He has not been made available for comment and court officials

could not be reached Sunday to learn if he has a lawyer.

The case attracted massive attention not only because of the seemingly unprovoked killing of a young, soon-to-be married couple and the petty dispute that sparked it, but also because the suspect held the title of Oknha, an honorific bestowed on business people who donate large sums of money to the government.

The Oknha title is generally associated with influential

tycoons who are considered cronies of the ruling Cambodian People's Party, which has held power for almost four decades. But there are about 1,300 title holders, most of whom, like the suspect, are not public figures.

Unofficially, the title is associated with impunity for the rich, serving as a kind of preemptive get-out-of-jail-free card or a way of short-cutting government regulations.

Any cases involving blatant criminality — such as physical attacks or drug trafficking, for example — that attract public interest risk blowback for the government, opening it up to attacks from its opponents. In recognition of the political sensitivity, Prime Minister Hun Manet and members of his government were quick to issue condolences for the deaths and give assurances that justice would be vigorously pursued.

After his arrest, Srey Sina had his Oknha title revoked by King Norodom Siham-

oni. At least two other Oknha holders had their titles revoked earlier this year in connection with alleged cases of major fraud.

Last week's shooting was reported to have sprung from a dispute between the victims and one of their neighbors, who was a tenant in a property belonging to the suspect. The tenant, who is not charged with anything, was said by police to have called Srey Sina to help her with the dispute, which police said involved matters including a clothesline, a mango tree and a parking space.

A security camera video leaked to social media over the weekend showed the suspect gesture to Long Ly-song to come over to him to a spot just out of camera range, where he evidently shoots him point blank. He then moves back into view with his pistol, as the other victims scramble to hide underneath and behind tables, but are pursued and shot. □

Ivory Coast sets up mobile enrollment for a health coverage program criticized over glitches

by **HILAIRE ZON**

Associated Press

ABIDJAN, Ivory Coast (AP) — Health authorities in Ivory Coast launched mobile enrollment centers for the country's universal health coverage program, which has been criticized since its 2019 inception over difficulties accessing benefits.

Ivory Coast is one of a handful of countries in West Africa that offers a universal health program. But, five years in, less than half its citizens have enrolled. Known locally by its French acronym CMU, the program is meant to cover 70% of citizens' health care costs for a monthly charge of 1,000 West African CFA francs, or about \$1.65.

However, many participants who have managed to enroll have reported glitches, including that vouchers given at hospitals

that are supposed to provide them with medicine are later not accepted at pharmacies — requiring patients to pay out of pocket.

The mobile enrollment centers being rolled out at markets and remote neighborhoods are meant to allow Ivorians to sign up for the program and provide them with cards on site so they can immediately start receiving care at hospitals, clinics, and pharmacies around the country.

From 2019 until this year, only 13 million people, or 40% of the population, were able to enroll.

The country's Health Minister, Pierre Dimba, said the mobile centers are aimed at reaching people who have been unable to sign up for reasons including that they work long hours.

"We used the method



Residents line up in front of a mobile enrolment center from the Ivory Coast health authorities in Abidjan Monday, June 10, 2024.

Associated Press

which worked well when we did the COVID-19 vaccination, which was to go to these people in the markets, in remote neighborhoods, to get them signed up," he said.

Resident Bruno Agnissan already has a CMU card, but he came to an Abidjan mobile enrollment center

in search of information about how to successfully use it.

He said that while his son was being treated for malaria at a hospital, the facility ran out of medicine. He was given a voucher and told find the medicine at a local pharmacy.

"When we went to the

pharmacy and I presented the voucher, the pharmacy said that no, this is only for civil servants, that it won't work for us individuals," Agnissan said. "I went to all the pharmacies, and it didn't work."

Ultimately, he had to pay for the medicine out of his own pocket, he said.

Samuel Touffet, another local resident who came to the mobile center to get updated on coverage under the program, echoed Agnissan's concerns.

"There are so many pharmacies where if we go with the card, it doesn't work. So we want to know, where are the pharmacies where we can go and use the card?" he said. "Also, when we go to the hospital with the card, they say it doesn't work. So we don't know what this card is even worth." □

Aruba celebrates Dera Gay!

(Oranjestad)—Every year on June 24th, the Aruban community come together and celebrates one of our most authentic traditions: Dera Gai*, or Dia di San Juan (St. John's Day). This is a national holiday for us, and families and friends usually spend the day visiting several places around the island to delight in traditional cuisine, music, games, ambience and the famous Dera Gai Dance.

Brief history of Dera Gai

Dera Gai is a celebration with various origins and histories. The cultural festival of San Juan (St. John the Baptist), known locally as Dera Gai, dates back to 1862 and is celebrated every year on June 24th.

This holiday is rife with both pagan and Christian symbolism reflecting the influences of the Arawak natives and Spanish missionaries on

the Island, respectively. The origin story of this religious and cultural festival has several versions. The religious origin is associated with the birth date of St. John the Baptist, while the cultural origin is tied to the harvest festival. Although it has a religious aspect, Dera Gai is predominantly recognized as a cultural festival featuring music, dance, and singing. The dominant colors are red and yellow. Yellow symbolizes the flowering kibrahacha tree, while red represents the candle that is lit on the eve to announce the festival of the following day. From the pagan point of view, a fire is lit when that year's harvest proved to be fruitful.

According to tradition, the festival begins on June 23rd when people light cornstalks as a symbolic cleansing to prepare for the new harvest season. On June 24th, after



sunset, the celebration of San Juan starts in different districts with Dera Gai dance, candle dance, and flag dance. The candle dance is performed for protection against illness and bad luck. The most well-known dance is the Dera Gai, where a dancer, with his eyes covered and a stick in his hand, attempts to kill the "gai" (rooster). Traditionally, a hole was dug in the ground, and a live rooster was buried in the hole up to its neck. Blindfolded revelers would then be given three tries to decapitate the rooster with a long pole (piñata-style). (The Catholics considered this ritual to be symbolic of the decapitation of St. John the Baptist while the pagans believed that the spilling of the blood would fertilize the earth for the next growing season.) The one to carry out the deed was rewarded with bottles of alcohol and other prizes.

Today, a dummy is used, and the dance takes place during public festivities or neighborhood club



houses. Those who still perform the dance in the fields or on the ground use a calabash. There is also a flag dance, where small flags are placed on the ground and a person with their eyes covered by a cloth searches for the flags. The ceremony is accompanied by folk music.

The prominent musical instruments are the fio, wiri, and tambu. The Dera Gai chant dates back to 1862. Of course, this celebration is not complete without traditional local food and drinks. The festival of San Juan and Dera Gai regained popularity in the 1970s among the local population, and schools also started paying attention to this popular festival. "San Juan is coming, San Juan is going."

*Dera Gai: The word "gai" in Papiamentu means "rooster", and is pronounced like "guy".



The Department of Culture organizes school project "San Juan Festival" at Cas Tan Tin

Last Monday morning, Minister Maduro was present at Cas Tan Tin for the Department of Culture's school project "San Juan Festival - Dera Gai," where children received information about our traditional harvest festival on Saint John's Day, celebrated today, June 24th.

The Department of Culture, in collaboration with Cas Tan Tin and

the Aruba Fire Department, organized an educational program for Preparatory and Basic School students from grades 1 to 3. A total of 32 schools and about 3,000 children had the opportunity to experience and learn about Saint John's Day and the Dera Gai dance from June 11 to 20.

In the Cas Tan Tin field, Minister Maduro of Culture attended the presentation by the Department of Culture team led by John Freddy Montoya, who explained the reasons for celebrating Saint John's Day and showed all the festival elements important for the children to recognize in the celebration. This was followed by singing popular harvest songs, demonstrating the San Juan dance, and even a Gay



scream contest, which are events that form part of the Saint John's Day celebration.

From the Aruba Fire Department, Mr. Francis Toussaint explained the tradition of lighting fires on Saint John's Day to the children and advised against lighting fires because it can be dangerous for people, animals, and the environment. He provided tips on what to do if a fire



is lit to avoid danger.

At the end of the event, Minister Maduro handed out a certificate to each child who participated in the dance demonstration and the Gay scream contest. Afterwards, all schools received a tour of the historic Cas Tan Tin house so they could see how life was in Aruba in the past.



A guide for the perfect picture

Where to find the most Instagrammable places in Oranjestad

(Oranjestad)—Imagine, you're taking a stroll in the city center, and you want to take the most picture-perfect photo to show your friends and family back home and online. It seems like the perfect spot can be hard to find, but Oranjestad is full of great spots for a quick snapshot! Here are the most Instagrammable places in Oranjestad.

"I LOVE ARUBA"

Right on Paardenbaai Plaza, near the harbor entrance, you will spot a giant sign that reads "I LOVE ARUBA". A great first stop for a quick shot with the family, this spot is among the few that has become a favorite among tourists, especially those that are visiting Aruba through a cruise vacation.

Speaking of giant signs that read "Aruba" (because there can never be too many), there is another sign you can find along the Linear Park, in front of Talk of the Town Hotel. It may be a long walk from the harbor to get there, but while you're at it, check out these other spots along the way!

The sitting bull

Yes, you read that right; right in the heart of the



city center, in front of the Crystal Casino in the Renaissance Mall, there is a black bull sitting on a bench, waiting for you to take a picture with it. Ok, so it's not a real bull, but "I took a picture with a sitting bull" sounds like a great conversation opener.

See if you can also spot the cow on the roof!

Wooden Swing on Plaza Daniel Leo

While you're in front of the Renaissance Mall, check out the wooden swing on the other side of the mall on Plaza Daniel Leo. Another favorite among visitors wanting a cute snapshot for Instagram. Just pass through the Renaissance Mall and find this gem in front of the back entrance!



Since you've made it this far, one question: How many blue horses have you spotted already?

Renaissance Dock

Last but certainly not least, the Renaissance Dock is the perfect spot to take a beautiful picture, especially at sunset. The dock is located behind the Renaissance Market Place, and runs from the Renaissance Marina up to Renaissance Beach and Wilhelmina Park. This spot offers a gorgeous view of the ocean and sunset, accompanied by the soft waves crashing on the shoreline. You may even spot some iguanas!

Why You Should Not Miss Aruba's Free City Center Street Car Tour

ORANJESTAD - Aruba's City Center Street Car - or as we call it in Dutch; "Tram van Oranjestad" - is a single track tram line in Oranjestad, the capital city of Aruba. It was inaugurated on 22 December 2012, being the first and so far the only passenger rail service on Aruba and the rest of the Dutch Caribbean. There are two trolleys, a single-deck one with 42 seats and a double-decker with 64 seats. The line was inspired by the popular battery-powered streetcar operation at the Grove in Los Angeles, USA. Aruba's streetcars are powered by hydrogen fuel cells, which are charged by the island's year-round trade winds.

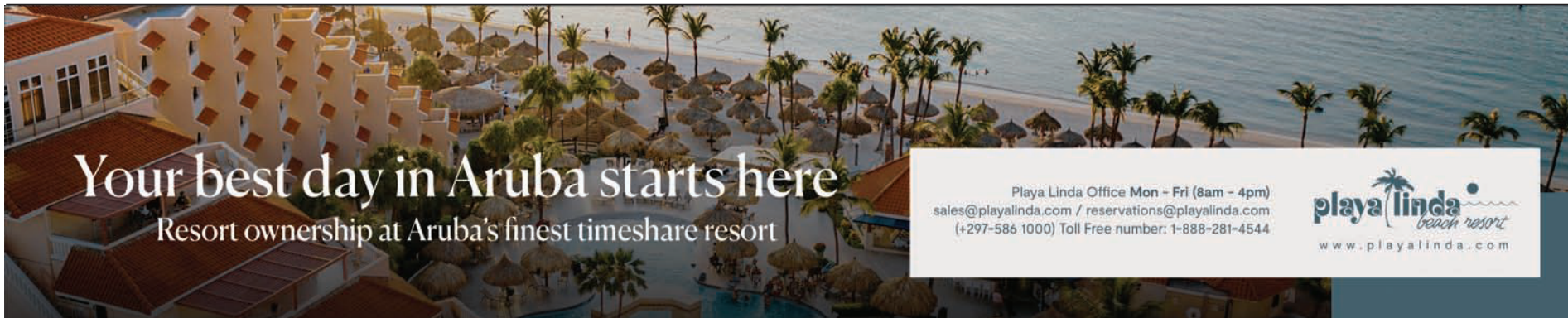
Caya Betico Croes, mostly referred to as our "main street" has been developed into a pollution-free pedestrian mall. The double-decker offers you a 360 degree view of the down town area with a picture perfect scenery of the is-

land's clear blue skies. Who would not enjoy a ride on this beautiful and naturally air-conditioned vehicle? The tour consists of a total of 9 stops approximately 200 meters apart from each other; all stops are clearly marked. The tram will bring you close to different museums, historical plazas, monuments, the Protestant church, Aruba's high-end mall, retail shops, and a variety of local and international cuisine restaurants. The "I love Aruba" trademark also belongs to that list. The third stop on the route is close to a 5-minute walk to the famous Renaissance Marina showcasing luxurious yachts and Aruba's blue waters.

The "Tram van Oranjestad" starts from a balloon loop near the Port of Call and serves the downtown area and ends at Plaza Nicky. The first ride starts at 10:00 am sharp with intervals of 25 minutes. The last trolley departs from the cruise port



at 5:00pm. Don't miss this tour of the beautiful Aruba's City Center- it is free for all!



Your best day in Aruba starts here
Resort ownership at Aruba's finest timeshare resort

Playa Linda Office Mon - Fri (8am - 4pm)
sales@playalinda.com / reservations@playalinda.com
(+297-586 1000) Toll Free number: 1-888-281-4544

playa linda
beach resort
www.playalinda.com

Paseo Herencia Celebrates Employee Appreciation Night and Work Anniversaries

(Oranjestad) – Paseo Herencia hosted an Employee Appreciation Night to celebrate the dedication and achievements of its staff. The event, held at TGI Fridays, was a fun occasion marked by good ambiance and great food.

The celebration honored the hard work and loyalty of Paseo Herencia employees, with special recognition given to three individuals for their significant milestones:

Clelia Fernandez: Celebrating 15 years of dedicated service as housekeeper.

Jeffrey Richardson: Celebrating 5 years of dedicated service as security.

Sharifa Creighton: Celebrating 5 years of dedicated service as cashier.

These anniversaries underscore the strong sense of community and longevity within the Paseo Herencia team. Management expressed their profound gratitude for the employees' unwavering dedication and exceptional service throughout the years.



Visit the historic museum at Fort Zoutman!

(Oranjestad)—Located in the middle of downtown Oranjestad, situated right next to the government building “Cocolishi”, is one of the oldest buildings of Aruba: Fort Zoutman. First constructed in 1796, this site has been used (or left unused) in many ways and have survived eras of war and attempted dismantling.

When anyone refers to Fort Zoutman, they are actually referring to two separate buildings that, over the years, have been merged: the fort and the tower. That's right, the iconic

5-story, squared tower was not part of the original structure of the fort, and is actually called “Willem III Toren”. Constructed in 1867, this tower was named after the then-reigning king of The Netherlands, Willem III. Willem III Toren was originally a light tower, but after a request from Lieutenant Governor Jan Helenus in 1866, it also became a bell tower.

The fort itself was originally constructed to protect the commerce bay of Paardenbaai from pirates and other disreputable characters roaming the Caribbean Sea. Unlike the Willem III Toren, Fort Zoutman had a more tumultuous past, including the on-and-off reception of unwanted members of the English military several times (The Netherlands was at constant war with England back in the colonial era).

Over the years, both the fort and the tower had functioned as different government center points, including a tax and stamps office. For some time these two buildings also housed a police precinct and jail, and even experienced abandonment until the Cultural Center Aruba Foundation (CCA) petitioned for its renovation in 1964, turning the site into the Historic Museum it currently is.



Despite its small size, The Historic Museum guards a rich depository of the commercial, military and social history of Oranjestad, offering a glance into how the social culture of the town came to be. If you are interested in history and want to learn more about Aruba, then Fort Zoutman should definitely be included into your itinerary.

The museum is open Monday to Friday from 9am-6pm, and Saturday from 10am-2pm.

Source: The Old Fort of Aruba by Jan Hartog.



Keeping up with the conniving spider... Nanzi fools Cha Tiger

Many years ago, Cha* Tiger did not live in the mondi*, but among civil society. Back then, he was feared by everyone. When he walked past in a halfway, everyone around would make room immediately, that's how ferocious he was.

One night a group of friends was hanging out and they were talking about Cha Tiger. "You know, that tiger sure is incredibly strong and I don't trust him one bit. He probably eats a lot too. Oh, I'm so scared of him!" one person said.

"Oh, don't be stupid! What can Cha Tiger do? He's all bark and no bite, that's it. I certainly am not afraid of him. I bet you guys that I could even sit on his back like I would any donkey." It was Nanzi who said this. The people around him laughed at his remarks, thinking how silly it was for him to say such things.

"You, Nanzi? You are such a liar! He'll stomp you into next Tuesday, stop saying such nonsense."

"I'm not lying!" Nanzi defended himself. "He'll take me all the way to Shon Arei*."

The next morning, Shon Arei already knew of what Nanzi had been saying about Cha Tiger. He was really curious to see if Nanzi was brave enough to put his mon-

ey where his mouth is. Cha Tiger walked past.

"Hey, Cha Tiger!" someone called to him. He growled at the person. "Hey, Cha Tiger! Listen!"

"Nanzi made fun of you, said he wasn't afraid of you at all! Said he could sit on your back and that you weren't as strong as we think you are."

Cha Tiger stopped dead in his tracks, furious. "Well, I'll set him straight!" Cha Tiger ran toward Nanzi's house, prepared to teach Nanzi a painful lesson. The entire way there he was growling and yelling, making everyone around aware what was going to happen. They all ran inside and peaked through the blinds to see the fight that was going to unfold.

Nanzi also heard Cha Tiger's screams, slowly getting closer and closer. He was terrified. His face turned pale, and his teeth started chattering like someone with a high fever. Sweat was dripping down his forehead.

When Cha Tiger arrived at Nanzi's place, he stormed in and saw Nanzi's frail body lying face down in the corner. "Hey, how are you, Cha Tiger?" Nanzi asked, his voice trembling. "I heard you were making fun of me in front of your little friends, so I came to hear from your



own mouth what you have to say to me," Cha Tiger retorted, still fuming.

"Me? Talk bad about you?" Nanzi chuckled nervously. "People are such liars, I swear. Can't you see how sick I am here?" Nanzi took a pause, like someone who couldn't breathe properly. In his case of course, it was probably from extreme fear. "Shi Maria* wanted to take me to Shon Arei, where someone can heal me from my illness." Still wrapped up in his act, Nanzi turned back face down. "Me, a father of nine little children..."

Cha Tiger was shocked. Nanzi looked absolutely terrible, God knows he was dying.

"Cha Tiger, you're strong. Could you put me on your back and take me to Shon Arei, I can barely walk," Nanzi pleaded. Cha Tiger took pity on the spider and agreed to do this favor. Nanzi climbed on the tiger's back, letting his body fall down and grabbing on to Cha Tiger's neck. "Would you mind putting a rope in your mouth so I can hold on? That way I can sit up straight," Nanzi asked. Cha Tiger growled in reluctance but said OK. And so they made their way to Shon Arei.

Once they started traveling through the mondi, Nanzi turned to

Cha Tiger and said: "These mosquitos are so annoying! Cha Tiger, do you mind if I cut a piece of branch so I can keep these mosquitos away?" Cha Tiger let him take his branch.

Eventually they made it out the mondi to where everyone else was. Nanzi immediately perked up and whacked Cha Tiger with his branch, making the tiger jump. He ran all the way to Shon Arei's castle. Exhausted, he plumped down in front of His Majesty.

"See, Shon Arei? Cha Tiger ain't nothing but a big donkey!" Nanzi said proudly. Everyone around cheered: "Hurray, Nanzi!" Poor Cha Tiger was so embarrassed that he was fooled by the conniving spider, and so he ran into the mondi to hide. To this day, it's said that the tiger still hides away in the mondi.

Cha: Nickname placed in front of someone's name and can mean anything, like friend. However, it often has negative connotations first. Mondí: dry wooded areas found on the ABC islands.

Shon Arei: The King

Shi Maria: Nanzi's wife.

Story and pictures are from "Kon Nanzi a Nek Shon Arei (i otro kuentan antiano di e araña sabi)" by Nilda Pinto.



The Aruban Cunukero

From past to present

(Oranjestad)—Aruba's culture consists of rich historical traditions that make up the Aruban identity and lifestyle. However, the life of the cunukero (farmer) is perhaps the most important aspect of our culture, in a sense representing to locals the true essence of the Aruban.

Historically, cunucus (farms) played a huge role in the early social and economic development of Aruba, and its relevance dates back to the early days of the colonization era. Upon being discovered by Spanish conquistadors in the late 15th century, Aruba was used primarily as a ranch, housing horses and cattle brought from Europe. During the Dutch colonization era where the West Indian Company (WIC) dominated the economic sphere on the island, using the land to set up cattle farms and ranches remained popular.

Anthropologist Sidney Mintz divided Caribbean farmers back in four categories:

1. The "squatters", who were mostly comprised of illegal and poor colonists, runaway slaves and deserters who took advantage of the Spanish's weak supervision on Caribbean islands like Cuba and the DR;
2. Then you have "Early Yeomen", who were legal farmers who came to the west under contract. Once their contract expired, they were given a plot of land for independent use;
3. Proto-Peasants were plantation slaves who were allowed to have a small piece of land to grow food for their own consumption. This was to curb the cost of living on the plantations;
4. Lastly you have the "Runaway Peasantries", usually comprised of runaway slaves who acquired farming tools and cattle



through stealing or through secret exchanges with other slaves from different plantations.

However, the Aruban cunukeros back then are hard to place, and their history may explain why.

From 1636 (beginning of Dutch colonization era) to before the oil industry in 1924, Aruba's population consisted of mostly farmers. These farmers were mostly indigenous and were characterized as peasants. They weren't allowed to participate in trading, but instead were granted a piece of land to live off of. However, in exchange for this grant, these indigenous farmers were obligated to work for the WIC, doing daily tasks such as taking care of or hunting cattle—large majority of which were destined for Curacao, clean water tanks and chop wood, among other things.

As much as these farmers were given to opportunity to live "free" with a plot of land, their exclusion from the trading and business world, as well as being deprived the chance to become real property and cattle owners, made them a unique

group among Caribbean farmers at the time.

The WIC placed a lot of restrictions on these indigenous farmers—a method to safeguard their cattle deposit on the island. The indigenous farmers were mostly granted less than 7 acres of land. Those who owned bigger land were either once affiliated with the WIC or were colonists who settled on the island to try their luck at farming. In 1767, there were about 120 houses/cunucus on the island.

These Aruban farmers were also limited to the amount of cattle they could keep. Most kept goats as cattle, as only those who were affiliated with the WIC could keep (more) sheep. Of the 76 goat herders on the island, about 45 of them had less than 30 goats, and only 7 of them had more than 60 goats.

It wasn't until the WIC was defunct in late 18th century that these farmers were able to obtain more freedom as cunukeros. After 1824, the government gave these farmers official permission to keep livestock, and the obligations once placed on them were officially dis-

carded.

Because of the dry climate in Aruba, growing food for commercial purposes was not popular. The focus was mainly on cattle herding and taking care of livestock. However, livestock need food to survive, and when Aruba experienced its duper dry climate, many farmers would see a big loss in their livestock, and hence profit.

Although the WIC at one point did try to come up with an initiative to get more people to have land on the island, the climate never really allowed real profit from farming. Because of the climate, Aruban farmers in general could not keep large quantities of livestock. At a certain point toward the end of the 18th century, the climate got so bad that many farmers decided to leave the island for a while.

For this reason, the farming economy on the island remained small. As the years went by and people noticed that these farms could not really produce any sustainable profit, farmers kept their small piece of land just to live off of. This is why the Aruban cunukeros only played a very tiny role into the plantation economy.

In modern Aruba, cunucus and cunukeros still exist on the island, fortunately with more freedom and more opportunity to tap into the agricultural market. These farmers usually sell their produce on a smaller scale, like during farmers' market events and other types of (holiday) events.

Source: "Arubaans Akkoord: Opstellen over Aruba van voor de komst van de olieindustrie (Aruban Accord: Essays on Aruba Before the Arrival of the Oil Industry)" by Alofs, Luc; Rutgers, Wim; Coomans, Henny E. red.

Aruba to me

ORANJESTAD — You are back or still enjoying your vacation?... we would like to portrait you! By inviting you to send us your favorite vacation picture while enjoying our Happy Island.

Complete the sentence: Aruba to me is Send your picture with that text (including your name and where you are from) to: news@arubatoday.com and we will publish your vacation memory. Isn't that a special way to keep your best moments alive? Please do note: By submitting photos, text or any other materials, you give permission to The Aruba Today Newspaper, Caribbean Speed Printers and any of its affiliated companies to use said materials, as well as names, likeness, etc. for promotional purposes without compensation.

Last but not least: check out our website, Instagram and Facebook page! Thank you for supporting our free newspaper, we strive to make you a happy reader every day again.

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 Explorer modeling
Polo
6 Harbor cities
11 Deplete
12 Find ever so cute
13 Brief
14 Saudi Arabia neighbor
15 Even, as a score
17 Parrot or puppy
18 Ocean off Cape Cod
22 Spiced tea
23 Cookie bits
27 Acropolis sight
29 Scout group
30 Long-plumed birds
32 Muscle quality
33 Exited the jet
35 Fly catcher
38 Niger neighbor
39 Accepted truth
41 San Antonio mission
45 Tire in the trunk
46 Iron or gold

- 47 Did some modeling
48 Wise saying

DOWN

- 1 Greek consonants
2 Cigar dropping
3 Early auto
4 Like some windows
5 Choose to participate
6 Profitable discovery
7 Poem of praise
8 Frolic
9 Grove growth
10 Dis-patched
16 Series-ending abbr.
18 Lot unit
19 Ruffian
20 Den
21 Cut short
24 Earth orbiter
25 Tibia or fibula
26 Broke the limit
28 Checked
31 Relaxing resort
34 Andean animal
35 Hornet's kin
36 Trade fair
37 Prejudice
40 Lode material
42 — glance
43 Periodical, for short
44 Bullfight cheer

P	E	C	A	N		A	D	A	G	E
A	L	A	M	O		T	Y	L	E	R
S	A	V	E	R		E	E	L	E	R
S	P	I	N	E	S		U	K	E	
U	S	A		A	M	E	N	D	E	D
P	E	R		S	E	A	T	E	D	
			S	T	A	S	H			
	R	U	P	E	R	T		I	N	S
R	A	N	F	R	E	E		M	E	T
I	M	P			D	R	A	P	E	R
P	O	I	S	E		E	R	O	D	E
U	N	L	E	T		G	I	R	L	S
P	E	E	P	S		G	A	T	E	S

Saturday's answer

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10
11						12				
13						14				
			15		16			17		
18	19	20					21			
22					23			24	25	26
27				28		29				
30					31		32			
			33			34				
35	36	37		38						
39			40			41		42	43	44
45						46				
47						48				

4-1

AXYDLBAAXR
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

4-1 CRYPTOQUOTE

SDQ AKBOS JA TIBKF KO SDQ

UTX VQ BQEENQB VDT S VQ

TBQ SDQ JSDQB 364 UTXO JA

SDQ XQTB. — ETBR SVTKY

Saturday's Cryptoquote: ONCE YOU ARE REAL YOU CAN'T BECOME UNREAL AGAIN. IT LASTS FOR ALWAYS. — MARGERY WILLIAMS, "THE VELVETEEN RABBIT"

Cruise ship Schedule: June 01 - June 25 2024

			ARR	DEPT	BERTH		
SAT	01	NORWEGIAN JADE	10.00	20.00	C	1	
THU	06	CELEBRITY BEYOND	08.00	21.00	C	1	
TUE	11	SILVER SHADOW	08.00	23.00	B	1	
		ADVENTURE OF THE SEAS	08.00	20.00	C	1	
		CARNIVAL MARDI GRAS	13.00	23.00	I	1	
WED	12	CARNIVAL HORIZON	07.00	15.00	B	1	
		RHAPSODY OF THE SEAS	09.00	21.00	C	1	
TUE	18	CELEBRITY BEYOND	08.00	21.00	B	1	
		CARNIVAL CELEBRATION	08.00	22.00	C	1	
		CARNIVAL VISTA	13.00	23.00	I	1	
TUE	25	CARNIVAL HORIZON	09.00	22.00	C	1	

Helpful tips for your stay on Aruba

(Oranjestad)—When traveling to another country, especially for the first time, it is always better to be over-prepared than under-prepared. That is why we have a list of basic—but important—information that we think may come in handy to Aruba's visitors.

lets used on the island: type A with two flat prongs; type B with two flat and one grounding prong, and on occasion, type F with two round prong and two earth clips on the side. However, Type A is most commonly found in homes and establishments.

Supermarket hours



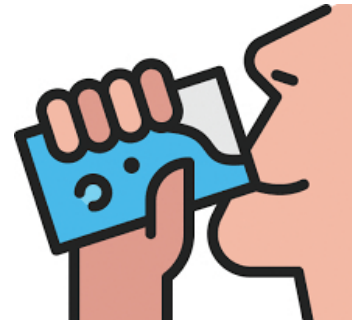
Supermarket hours may vary depending on where you are staying on the island. Generally though, most supermarkets are open from 8am to 9 or 10pm, Monday through Saturday. On Sundays, supermarkets generally close earlier; mostly around 2pm.

Electrical power



Aruba generally operates on 110V to 127V supply voltage and 60Hz. There are also three types of out-

Drinking water



The water that flows through the sinks of every house, hotels and other establishments is distilled and perfectly safe to drink. Aruba's drinking water exceeds WHO's international standards for water quality, so there is no need to buy bottled water from the store.

Safety



Since February 2024, Aruba has been categorized as the safest country in the Caribbean by The Telegraph, and many tourist that visit have often told us how they feel safe to explore the island or walk around at night. However, rare incidents do occur, so keep yourself and your belongings safe.

Honey Dolls
MASSAGE AND ESCORT SERVICE

Beautiful Latin Girls
Pick-up & Delivery

Serving Men - Couple - Women - All Genders

+297 565-9535

WWW.PLEASUREINARUBA.COM

24/7

TikTok accuses federal agency of 'political demagoguery' in legal challenge against potential US ban

By HALELUYA HADERO
AP Business Writer

TikTok disclosed a letter Thursday that accused the Biden administration of engaging in "political demagoguery" during high-stakes negotiations between the government and the company as it sought to relieve concerns about its presence in the U.S.

The letter — sent to David Newman, a top official in the Justice Department's national security division, before President Biden signed the potential TikTok ban into law — was submitted in federal court along with a legal brief supporting the company's lawsuit against measure. TikTok's Beijing-based parent company ByteDance is also a plaintiff in the lawsuit, which is expected to be one of the biggest legal battles in tech and internet history. The internal documents provide details about negotiations between TikTok and the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States, a secretive inter-agency panel that investigates corporate deals over national security concerns, between January 2021 and August 2022. TikTok has said those talks ultimately resulted in a 90-page draft security agreement that would have required the company to



The icon for the video sharing TikTok app is seen on a smartphone, Feb. 28, 2023, in Marple Township, Pa.

Associated Press

implement more robust safeguards around U.S. user data. It would have also required TikTok to put in a "kill switch" that would have allowed CFIUS to suspend the platform if it was found to be non-compliant with the agreement. However, attorneys for TikTok said the agency "ceased any substantive negotiations" with the company after it submitted the draft agreement in August 2022. CFIUS did not immediately respond to a request for comment. The Justice Department said it is looking forward to defending the recently enacted legislation, which it says addresses "critical national security concerns in a manner that is consistent with the First Amendment and other constitutional limitations." "Alongside others in our in-

telligence community and in Congress, the Justice Department has consistently warned about the threat of autocratic nations that can weaponize technology — such as the apps and software that run on our phones — to use against us," the statement said. "This threat is compounded when those autocratic nations require companies under their control to turn over sensitive data to the government in secret." The letter sent to Newman details additional meetings between TikTok and government officials since then, including a March 2023 call the company

said was arranged by Paul Rosen, the U.S. Treasury's undersecretary for investment security.

According to TikTok, Rosen told the company that "senior government officials" deemed the draft agreement to be insufficient to address the government's national security concerns. Rosen also said a solution would have to involve a divestment by ByteDance and the migration of the social platform's source code, or its fundamental programming, out of China.

TikTok's lawsuit has painted divestment as a technological impossibility since the law requires all of TikTok's millions of lines of code to be wrested from ByteDance so that there would be no "operational relationship" between the Chinese company and the new U.S. app. □



HEALTH

DOCTOR ON DUTY

Oranjestad

Hospital 7:00 pm / 10:00pm
Tel. 527 4000

San Nicolas

Imsan 24 hours
Tel. 524 8833

PHARMACY ON DUTY

Oranjestad:

Kibrahacha : Tel. 583 4908

San Nicolas:

San Nicolas: Tel. 584 5712

OTHER

Dental Clinic 587 9850
Blood Bank Aruba 587 0002
Urgent Care 586 0448
Walk-In Doctor's Clinic
+297 588 0539

EMERGENCY

Police	100
Oranjestad	527 3140
Noord	527 3200
Sta. Cruz	527 2900
San Nicolas	584 5000
Police Tipline	11141
Ambulancia	911
Fire Dept.	115
Red Cross	582 2219

TAXI SERVICES

Taxi Tas	587 5900
Prof. Taxi	588 0035
Taxi D.T.S.	587 2300
Taxi Serv. Aruba	583 3232
A1 Taxi Serv.	280 2828

TRAVEL INFO

Aruba Airport	524 2424
American Airlines	582 2700
Avianca	588 0059
Jet Blue	588 2244
Surinam	582 7896

AID FOUNDATIONS

FAVI- Visually Impaired
Tel. 582 5051

Alcoholics Anonymous
Tel. 736 2952

Narcotics Anonymous
Tel. 583 8989

Fundacion Contra Violencia
Relacional Tel. 583 5400

Centre for Diabetes
Tel. 524 8888

Child Abuse Prevention
Tel. 582 4433

Quota Club Tel. 525 2672

General Info

Phone Directory Tel. 118

ARUBA
TODAY

BONDIA
ARUBA

How to reach us!

The map shows a street grid in downtown Aruba. A magnifying glass is positioned over a location marked with the Aruba Today and Bondia logos. The map includes labels for 'Bus terminal', 'High Rise Hotels', 'Weststraat', 'Schepstraat', 'Royal Plaza Mall', 'L.G. Smith Boulevard', 'Caya G.F. Betico Croes', and 'Downtown'.

Casa del Mar

BEACH RESORT

Casa del Mar Sales Inventory Week 25

WEEK 24
Ambassador Unit
(one bedroom)
Price range: \$3,600.00 - \$4,500.00
Presidential suites
(two bedrooms)
Price range: \$8,760.00

WEEK 25
Ambassador unit
(one bedroom)
Price range: \$2,300.00 - \$4,500.00
Presidential suites
(two bedrooms)
Price range: \$12,000.00

WEEK 26
Ambassador unit
(one bedroom)
Price range: \$3,000.00 - \$4,500.00
Presidential suites
(two bedrooms)
Price range: \$9,500.00

FOR MORE INFO CALL:
+297-582-700 Ext. 614
OR EMAIL:
sales@casadelmararuba.com

ARUBA
TODAY

Editor

Caribbean Speed Printers N.V.
Aruba Bank N.V. Acc. #332668
Caribbean Mercantile Bank N.V.
Acc. #23951903
RBC Royal Bank Acc. #1330772

Editors

Pilar Flores
Richard Brooks
Angenette Figuereo

Sales

Mark Gomes
Sulaika Croes

Classifieds

classified@cspnv.com

Distribution and Collection

accounting@bondia.com

Social / Website

Juan Luis Pinto

Weststraat 22
T: 582-7800
E: news@arubatoday.com
W: www.arubatoday.com
f @arubatoday

Like us on
Facebook

facebook.com/arubatoday/

Scottie Scheffler outlasts protest on 18th green, Tom Kim to win Travelers for 6th victory of year

By JIMMY GOLEN

AP Sports Writer

CROMWELL, Conn. (AP) —

Scottie Scheffler had to wait out a climate protest on the 18th green and Tom Kim's tying birdie on the last hole of regulation.

Those events only delayed what seems to be inevitable on the PGA Tour this season: the best golfer in the world walking off with the trophy.

Shrugging off a protest that interrupted the tournament on the 72nd hole while the leaders were lining up their putts, Scheffler won the Travelers Championship on the first hole of sudden death on Sunday for his sixth win of the year, the most in one season on the PGA Tour since Tiger Woods had six in 2009.

"When something like that happens, you don't really know what's happening. So it can kind of rattle you a little bit," Scheffler said.

"That can be a stressful situation, and you would hate for the tournament to end on something weird happening because of a situation like that," he said. "Tom and I both tried to calm each other down so we could give it our best shot there on 18."



Scottie Scheffler holds up his trophy after winning the Travelers Championship golf tournament at TPC River Highlands, Sunday, June 23, 2024, in Cromwell, Conn.

Associated Press

Scheffler closed with a 5-under 65 and a 22-under 258 total at the TPC River Highlands, and Kim matched him with a final-round 66.

Tom Hoge and Sungjae Im tied for third, two shots back, with Patrick Cantlay, Tony Finau, Justin Thomas and Akshay Bhatia tied for fifth at 18 under. Bhatia was also in the final group that was disrupted by the protest.

"I was scared for my life," he said. "I didn't even really know what was happening. ... But thankfully the cops were there and kept us safe, because that's,

you know, that's just weird stuff."

It was Scheffler's fourth victory of the year in the tour's \$20 million, limited-field signature events, earning him a payday of \$3.6 million. He also won the Masters and The Players Championship. And Scheffler still has two months to go.

"As much as I love him, I would have loved to take that away from him," said Kim, who shares a birthday and a friendship with Scheffler. "But I'm happy for him, and after I tapped out, after he tapped out, he said some really nice words and it meant a lot to me."

Scheffler had a one-stroke lead heading to the 18th green on Sunday when six people stormed the course, waving smoke bombs that left a red and white powdery residue on the putting surface. Some wore white T-shirts with the words "NO GOLF ON A DEAD PLANET" in black lettering.

They were tackled by police and taken off.

The activist group Extinction Rebellion, which has a history of disrupting events around the world, claimed responsibility for the protest. In a statement emailed to The Associated Press, the group blamed climate change for an electrical storm that injured two people at a home near the course on Saturday.

After a delay of about five minutes, when tournament officials used towels and blowers to remove the powder and any other marks that might affect play, Scheffler left a 26-foot putt from the fringe on the edge of the cup and tapped in for par.

Kim then made a 10-foot birdie putt for a 66 to match Scheffler.

"Obviously it is a disruption and you don't want it to happen, but for me it

just kind of slowed things down," Kim said. "It took the meaning of the putt away for a second. Because for the past 17 and a half holes all you're thinking about is golf, and suddenly when that happens your mind goes into a complete — like, you're almost not even playing golf anymore. I thought it was a dream for a second."

The hole location on the 18th was moved for the playoff to avoid the parts of the green affected by the protesters.

Scheffler hit his approach in the playoff to 11 feet while Kim found a greenside bunker. Kim's blast from a plugged lie ran 36 feet past the hole, leaving Scheffler with an easy two-putt par for the victory. Afterward, his wife, Meredith, met him on the green, carrying their 6-week-old son, Bennett.

"It's fun competing against your friends," Scheffler said. "But at the same time, it's difficult. Because part of me wants him to miss the putt and part of me wants him to make the putt. ... But he should remember that putt he made on 18, because it was pretty special. And he's a great player and a great champion." □

Angel Reese leads Sky to 88-87 win over Fever despite Caitlin Clark's franchise-record 13 assists

CHICAGO (AP) — Angel Reese scored a career-high 25 points and grabbed 16 rebounds to help the Chicago Sky beat Indiana 88-87 despite 17 points and a franchise-record 13 assists for the Fever's Caitlin Clark on Sunday.

Reese has posted a double-double in eight consecutive games, extending her WNBA rookie record. She is the first rookie since A'ja Wilson with 25-plus points and 15-plus rebounds in a single game. She joins Wilson as the only players in the WNBA this season with multiple games with at least 15 points and 15 rebounds. It was the hottest ticket in

nearly the past decade according to Vivid Seats with entry to the game going for \$351 dollars on average. Reese, Clark and the two teams didn't disappoint.

Clark played every minute and finished 5-of-11 shooting, 5 of 9 from 3, with six rebounds, four steals and five turnovers.

Chicago (6-9) trailed 82-70 with 6:38 left before Reese got going. She had 10 points and five rebounds from there to fuel the Sky's comeback.

She grabbed an offensive rebound, was fouled as she made the putback and hit the free throw to make it 82-all with 3 minutes to go.



Chicago Sky forward Angel Reese (5) and guard Marina Mabrey (4) battle Indiana Fever forward Aliyah Boston (7) and forward NaLyssa Smith (1) for a rebound during a WNBA basketball game, Sunday, June 23, 2024, in Chicago.

Associated Press

Kelsey Mitchell responded with a layup before Chennedy Carter tied it

with a running floater with 2:30 remaining. Reese scored inside to give the

Sky a two-point lead before Carter and Camilla Cardoso each hit 1 of 2 from the foul line to make it 88-84 with 27 seconds to play.

Aliyah Boston hit a contested 3 with 19 left before Marina Mabrey missed two free throws and Clark secured the loose-ball rebound but the Fever missed two shots in the closing seconds.

Mitchell scored 24 points to lead the Fever. Boston had 18 points, seven rebounds and six assists and NaLyssa Smith scored 12 points.

Chicago, which beat the Dallas Wings 83-72 on Thursday, has won back-to-back games following a four-game skid. □

Yanks' Stanton expects to miss 4 weeks with strained hamstring, 8th time on injured list in 6 years

By RONALD BLUM
AP Baseball Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Yankees slugger Giancarlo Stanton expects to miss about four weeks because of a strained left hamstring that caused him to go on the injured list for the eighth time in six seasons.

A 34-year-old former MVP, Stanton left Saturday night's 8-3 win over Atlanta and had imaging Sunday that led to the strain being evaluated as mild, according to manager Aaron Boone. Stanton had a platelet-rich plasma injection and gave the timetable for a return after the series-ending 3-1 loss to the Braves.

"Should be a four-week range," he said of a return. "As soon as possible, close to that."

Stanton doubled off the center-field wall in the fourth inning Saturday and winced when he rounded third base on Gleyber Torres' double. Trent Grisham pinch hit for Stanton leading off the sixth.

Stanton can start exercising 48 hours after the injection. He missed 266 of 708 games in the past five seasons (38%) but hopes an intensive offseason program would keep him healthy. He wouldn't say whether he felt frustrated.

"Feelings don't really matter in this time," he said. "It's just going to be a rough four weeks. I got to do what I can to get there."

Yankees general manager Brian Cashman had said on Nov. 13 at the annual GM meetings: "He's going to wind up getting hurt again more likely than not because it seems to be part of his game."

When a visibly slimmer Stanton reported to spring training, he said succinctly: "He knows my reaction to that." Boone said Aaron Judge likely will see more designated hitter days while Stanton is sidelined and Grisham will be the primary outfield replacement. Grisham is hitting .138 with four homers and 10 RBIs in 80 plate appearances, making 22 outfield starts. "This should give him that uptick of playing



New York Yankees' Giancarlo Stanton, top right, hits a double during the fourth inning of a baseball game against the Atlanta Braves, Saturday, June 22, 2024, in New York.

Associated Press

time," Boone said.

Stanton played in 69 of the Yankees' first 79 games — none in the field — and is hitting .246 with 18 homers and 45 RBIs. The active leader in home runs with 420, he is in the midst of his healthiest season with the

Yankees since he played in 158 games in 2018, his first after he was acquired from Miami.

"He's been that force that you want in the middle. He's been a threat every day," Boone said.

Stanton was sidelined dur-

ing the previous five seasons due to a strained right biceps and strained posterior cruciate ligament in his right knee (2019), strained left hamstring (2020), strained left quadriceps (2021), right ankle inflammation and left Achilles tendinitis (2022) and a strained left hamstring (2023).

"I think it's a little better than last year's," Stanton said.

Infielder Oswald Peraza was recalled from Triple-A Scranton/Wilkes-Barre. Boone said Jasson Domínguez would have been Stanton's roster replacement had he not strained his left oblique on June 15 with the RailRiders, an injury expected to sideline the outfielder until mid-August.

New York added a right-handed bat, acquiring first baseman J.D. Davis from Oakland along with cash for minor league infielder Jordan Groshans.

New York (52-28) lost two of three for the third straight series after dropping two of three to Boston and Baltimore. The Yankees had been relatively healthy early in the season. Infielder DJ LeMahieu didn't make his season debut until May 28 after breaking his right foot on a foul ball during spring training on March 16 and AL Cy Young Award winner Gerrit Cole didn't make his first start until June 19 because of right elbow nerve inflammation and edema. □



Orchid Casino
Palm Beach, Aruba

Come and join the FUN!
Everyday from 10am till 6pm
We have DOUBLE points

BINGO
Play Every Day
Bingo starts at 4:30PM

Operations Hours
Slots: 10am
Table: 4pm



Slot Play \$10
Match Play \$15



Sign up and become a VIP Member.
ID required upon redemption!



Located at RIU Antillas. For more info call: 5257777 or Follow us on






Start this year's vacation with this amazing experience in the heart of Costa Linda Beach Resort

Water's Edge Restaurant is a jewel many had the pleasure to find!

Eagle Beach – When you think of a restaurant that pleases the needs of a whole family or a large group of people with all different tastes? Think **Water's Edge Restaurant**. Located at the shore of Aruba's most wonderful beach, The Eagle Beach Aruba. Water's Edge Restaurant is guaranteed to serve you a fantastic magical night to remember. Whether you prefer to enjoy the view from indoors air conditioned comfort, outdoors in the soft tropical breeze or under a palapa with your toes in the sand. This spectacular restaurant offers the best ocean view sunset or sky full of stars dinner while the crispy Caribbean night wind caresses your face and plays with your hair.

From the minute you arrive there will be a great staff welcoming you with the most contagious smiles and warmth. The intense menu with a great variety of appetizers, main courses and delicious desserts will not disappoint. Seafood, Steaks and international favorites. All on one menu specially made just for you.

Culinary Voyage

Start your gastronomic journey with a scrumptious appetizer such as the Maryland Crab Cakes, maybe the Crispy

Calamari or the mouthwatering creamy Garlic Tarragon Shrimp. You can also opt for a classic French Onion Soup, a Lobster Bisque or the famously Water's Edge House Wedge, a crisp wedge of fresh romaine lettuce topped with homemade blue cheese dressing, diced tomatoes, chopped bacon, caramelized pecans and blue cheese crumbles, drizzled with balsamic reduction. This followed by the Chef's special of seafood such as Fresh salmon filet seasoned and grilled, topped with lemon cilantro butter and served with homemade mashed potatoes and fresh asparagus, a nice plate of Ahi Tuna or a succulent pasta dish like the Florentina Fettuccine Alfredo. Meat Lovers will have their fix with choices of a devourable 22oz. Bone-In "Tomahawk" Rib-Eye, pan seared in garlic infused oil and finished in the oven or our juicy N.Y Strip Loin, seasoned & grilled. All our steaks options are seasoned with a blend of kosher salt and freshly cracked black pepper. Served with homemade mashed potatoes, seasoned vegetables and a choice of red wine reduction, green peppercorn demi glace, mushroom sauce, or bacon blue cheese butter. For extra sides the options are delectable. Fresh asparagus, seasonal vegetables, mashed or baked potatoes, fries or rice and beans. Combine your personal choice with one of the most exclusive wine from the great selection of international



wines to compliment your dish. Kids will enjoy every item of the specially compiled kids menu and there are also optional dishes for all vegans, vegetarians and gluten-free guests. To end the culinary voyage with some luscious sweetness, the desserts are wild. From a piece of coconut flan, NY cheese cake, carrot cake, chocolate brownie or our classic Tiramisu with kahlua and amaretto served with chocolate sauce and coffee jelly. Not to mention the fresh and light piece of key lime pie.

Creating memories

If you are planning a birthday dinner, here you will receive a nice bottle of champagne to take home with you to extend your experience even further whether on the beach or your own private balcony.

Live entertainment

Just about every day of the week, there is a different live entertainment by the best local artists for you to enjoy. Whether you're in a romantic mood, or more in a swinging mood, there is absolutely a night especially for you where you can combine great music with delicious cocktails mixed with concoctions. In addition, Water's Edge offers three daily Happy Hours from 12pm-1pm, 4pm-6pm and again

from 9pm-10pm with all premium brands specially priced.

Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Whether you join us for breakfast, lunch or dinner, Water's Edge Restaurant & Bar offers a relaxed and inspirational dining experience overlooking the beautiful Eagle Beach with spectacular ocean views. Gather with friends and family for drinks and appetizers or a night of pampering and relaxation.

Thank you to all our guests

From the bottom of our hearts, we would like to Thank all of our guests who showed us so much love and support all throughout the year, and hopefully will continue to do so in the years to come. What we are most grateful for is that we could get back to doing what we love, which is looking after our guests. So, thank you for every dinner, lunch, breakfast, every to-go order, every glass of wine, every birthday, anniversary and date-night that you spent with us this last year. To our new guests, Welcome! We hope you to see you back soon! ☐



"Water's Edge Restaurant is where magnificent beach views, amazing food and excellent service come together."

Water's Edge is open daily from 8am – 11pm

To reserve your table please call **+297 583-8000 / ext 8106** or direct line **+297 586-9494**

For more information about the menus, entertainment and hours, please visit the website **watersedge-aruba.com**

